

To: Miller, Johanna[Miller.Johanna@epa.gov]
Cc: Peterson, Cynthia[Peterson.Cynthia@epa.gov]
From: Jenkins, Laura Flynn
Sent: Sat 11/7/2015 12:24:48 AM
Subject: RE: HRS Q&A

So sorry, this came in while I was in Silverton and I just now got to it. Here is the language we put forward on a related question in prep for the roadshow:

1. How soon would the Upper Animas be listed and what is the timeline for next steps?

Although EPA prepared a draft HRS report for Cement Creek in 2011, significant new environmental data has been collected since then that needs to be considered. EPA understands that the community is interested in exploring if an NPL listing is an appropriate tool for the Upper Animas Watershed.

The process of developing an HRS Report can be lengthy. We feel it is important that we start gathering information now so we, as an Agency, can be prepared in the event that EPA is requested to propose the site to the NPL. For that reason, EPA is initiating a revised HRS report that takes into account new information and data collected since the 2011 Report. This work does not in any way mean that the State or EPA have come to a decision regarding long-term remediation in the watershed.

Once an updated HRS is initiated, it generally take 3-6 months to complete, followed by the rulemaking process described above. This rulemaking process includes releasing the HRS report and supporting references for a 60-day public comment period.

The length of time it takes for remedial action to begin depends on a variety of site-specific factors. At the end of FY 2013, there were about 130 hardrock mining or mineral processing NPL or Superfund Alternative Approach sites. Less than half of those sites have progressed to remedial action start status and it took on average six years for remedial action to begin after NPL listing for those sites.

Laura Jenkins

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From: Miller, Johanna

Sent: Wednesday, November 04, 2015 4:55 PM

To: Jenkins, Laura Flynn

Cc: Peterson, Cynthia

Subject: FW: HRS Q&A

Laura – I am also brain dead right now and before sending to the GKM LT would love your edits to the talking point below. Thanks Johanna

From: Peterson, Cynthia

Sent: Wednesday, November 04, 2015 4:07 PM

To: Miller, Johanna

Subject: FW: HRS Q&A

You can tell it is getting late in the day – it takes two emails to cover one subject! If you are happy with the language, would you send it along to the GKM LT? It might jump start the discussion tomorrow.

Thanks!

Cynthia Peterson

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From: Peterson, Cynthia

Sent: Wednesday, November 04, 2015 4:06 PM

To: Miller, Johanna

Subject: HRS Q&A

Hi, Johanna.

Below is the statement we worked on this morning, with a few tweaks. What I couldn't add was what exactly we are doing right now that this statement references. This answers the why question, but could you draft a little language about the what?

Thanks!

EPA understands that the community is interested in exploring if an NPL listing is an appropriate tool for the Upper Animas Watershed. The process of developing an HRS Report can be lengthy. We feel it is important that we start gathering information now so, as an agency, we can be prepared in the event that EPA is requested to propose the site to the NPL. For that

reason, EPA is initiating drafting a revised HRS report that takes into account new information and data collected since the 2011. This work does not in any way mean that the State or EPA have come to a decision regarding long-term remediation in the watershed.

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